



**Pennsylvania
Convention Center**
PHILADELPHIA

PRODUCTION & THEATRICAL RIGGING GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS

Pennsylvania Convention Center

Recreated 2026 | Based on Updated 2025 Guidelines

IMPORTANT

These guidelines govern all attachments to Pennsylvania Convention Center building structures. All rigging requirements are mandatory and must be followed without exception.

1. Overview

The Pennsylvania Convention Center is the preferred provider for all production and theatrical rigging in the Convention Center as of October 1, 2015.

PRODUCTION RIGGING EQUIPMENT: PCC is the preferred provider.

PRODUCTION RIGGING LABOR: All **production rigging labor** is exclusively performed by the PCC Rigging Department, regardless of whether the rigging equipment is provided by PCC or an outside provider. The PCC Production Rigging Manager is responsible for placing all necessary rigging labor calls through Elliott-Lewis, PCC's in-house labor provider. Labor calls are based on the production schedule provided by vendor.

- Cost savings on shipping rigging gear to and from the Pennsylvania Convention Center.
- Reduced time and labor associated with unloading and loading trucks.
- When the room is available prior to load-in, PCC can pre-rig motors and truss, allowing the production company to begin setup more efficiently.
- PCC has the necessary rigging hardware available, helping avoid shortages of steel or missing gear.

BUILDING ATTACHMENT REQUIREMENT

The PCC Rigging Services Department will make all attachments to the building structure of the PCC. Production/theatrical rigging points will be required to attach all rigging points to the building. No outside company will be permitted to attach anything to the building structure.

It is in the best interest of all clients to have the production manager reach out during the planning phase of the event so an estimate can be provided for thorough budgeting. For larger rigging projects, a site survey is strongly encouraged. Please contact the PCC Rigging Department to schedule a walk-through.

2. Production & Theatrical Rigging Guidelines

These guidelines govern the attaching of any hardware to and from Pennsylvania Convention Center building structures including beams, truss, truss panels, bar joists, and ceilings. Examples include rigging motors, trussing, motor control cable, and any other equipment suspended from the structure.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENT

Pennsylvania Convention Center (PCC) is the exclusive provider of Production & Theatrical Rigging Labor Services. PCC will make all attachments to the building structure. No attached equipment shall be moved without PCC riggers.

- All rigging must conform to show management rules and regulations, as well as PCC requirements.
- No hanging item may exceed engineering guidelines. See ceiling plans and room parameters.
- There will be NO rigging from conduit, sprinkler pipes, gas pipes, drywall, fascia, lighting fixtures, buss ducts, all thread, air ducts, speaker systems, ceiling tiles, or any other non-load-bearing structures.
- Rigging Plots can be found on our website: <https://www.paconvention.com/meeting-professionals/floor-plans>

3. Submission Requirements & Deadlines

The Pennsylvania Rigging Services department should be contacted as early as possible. The following information is needed by the specified deadlines:

1. A complete inventory list and rigging plot of trussing and motors (with weights) must be submitted at least 45 days in advance. If 40 points or more will be rigged, 60 days of notice is required.
2. A final rigging plot must be signed off by the client's production manager and submitted to the Rigging Services Department no later than 14 days prior to the first load-in day.
3. All rigging information listed under Proposed Plans/Diagrams must be submitted with the final rigging plot no later than 14 days prior to the first load-in day. The PCC Rigging Manager and/or building head rigger will reach out to the show's head rigger to discuss the final plot.
4. PCC may prohibit the installation of any items not in compliance with the required plan reviewed.

Proposed Plans and/or Diagrams Must Include

- Accurately scaled plan in a DWG file with points labeled and (X-0, Y-0) location marked on drawing.
- Maximum weight load in pounds per motor including motor and chain; complete the motor and weight matrix or submit a similar document with all required information.
- Truss size and length.
- All items to be flown and quantities on each truss system clearly shown on the drawing (speakers, lighting units, AV, scenic, signs, special effects, automated units, etc.).
- Trim heights for all trussing.
- Measurement from a hard surface to a stick of truss.
- Power requirements accurately marked on the plan.
- Company, show name or exhibit, designer or draftsman, drawing date, and event date listed on the plan.
- Steel and columns must be shown on drawings.

¼ ton motor will be used for weights up to 375 lbs.

½ ton motor will be used for weights between 375 – 800 lbs.

1-ton motors will be used for weights over 800 lbs.

Rigging Motor and Weight Matrix – Sample

Motor Label	Hoist Type	Total Point Load (lbs)	X	Y
SR-01	1/2 Ton	642	-82'3"	9"
SR-02	1/2 Ton	588	-72'8"	9"
L1	1 Ton	464	-119'	-16'
L2	1 Ton	389	100'	-16'

4. Equipment, Labor & Safety Requirements

- Only PCC will supply, at a cost per the applicable rate sheet, all motors, rigging hardware, motor controls and cables, and trussing for all events.
- All rigging hardware, equipment, or show-related items must be removed at the end of the license. PCC Rigging will assess labor charges for setup and removal; estimates will be provided in advance.
- Dead-hung items are limited to specific weights depending on the exhibit hall or ballroom. PCC Rigging Services must be involved regarding any attachment to the building structure.
- Only employees of PCC Production & Theatrical Rigging Department and Elliott Lewis will be permitted to operate boom lifts within the Center. For ballrooms: all boom lifts will be rented through PCC Rigging. Personnel must wear a harness and attached lanyard while in the lift.
- Rigging must not disturb the fire system in any way.
- Beams may be wrapped with burlap or 3/8-inch steel only where permanently installed hang points do not exist. Beam clamps exist only in Terrace Ballroom. This application can only be at a structural panel point.
- Once building structure is deemed at maximum weight capacity for flown items, no additional weight can be put on the support structure of truss. Any load with a chain motor or other lifting device is considered a dynamic load and weight must include full weight load when submitting.
- No personnel will be allowed on truss or any flown structure without a fall arrester device.
- If other rigging arrangements have been made contractually, a separate point (attachment to the ceiling/steel) fee of \$100.00 per point (NOT motor) for rigging hardware attachment must be paid by the client to PCC.

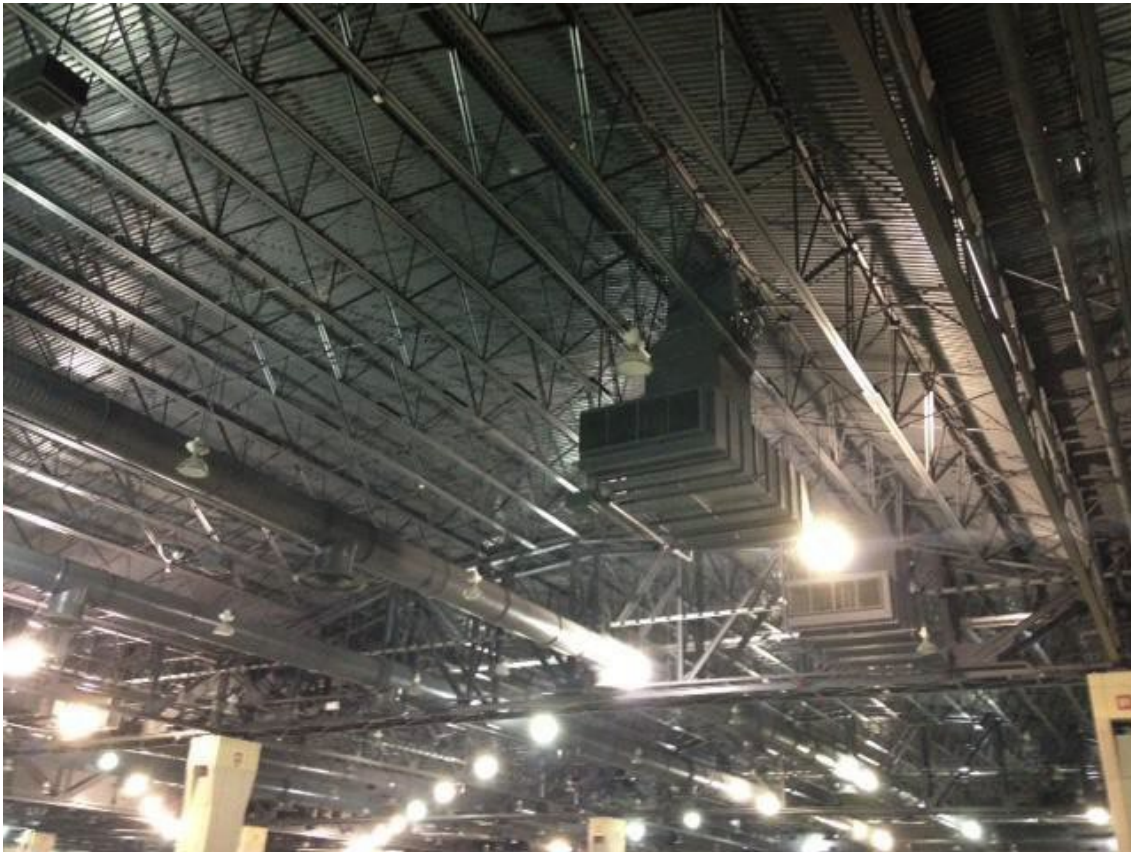
For further assistance, please contact your Event Manager, who will coordinate with the appropriate team member to assist you.

5. Rigging Information and Parameters by Room

Exhibit Halls A, B, C & D

Please review each reflected ceiling plan for each Hall on the Pennsylvania Convention Center website. These halls have similar guidelines, but room sizes vary, so it is important to use the correct ceiling plan and complete the event rigging plot on the respective ceiling plan.

- Most rigging is on panel truss with a 250 lb. per-point load; most points are bridled.
- No weight load over 1000 lbs. per point load: 4-way bridle.
- Over 20 motors, someone from the Production company must be present for the pre-rig to ensure correct placement and to address any adjustment.
- Please have the motor weight and truss length/size on the drawing.
- Please provide the X/Y for all motors along with Datum.
- Please indicate the name of the event, Production company, and show dates on your Rigging plots.
- Panel trusses arch in the room, so the height of each panel truss varies throughout the Hall.
- Each ceiling plan provides detailed examples of truss sizes and maximum loads; color coordinated for easier identification.
- The 6' x 6' box truss runs east/west, and the 1' x 6' truss runs north/south. Maximum loads vary based on the number of points hung from each truss running column to column.
- Lower trim: 30' in Halls A, B & C; 29' in Hall D.
- A 60' boom lift is needed for each rigging team.



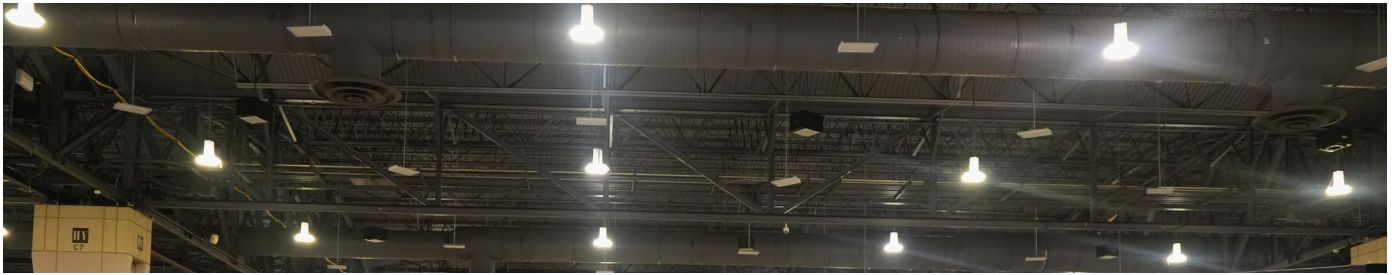
Hall A - view from near the corner of the room



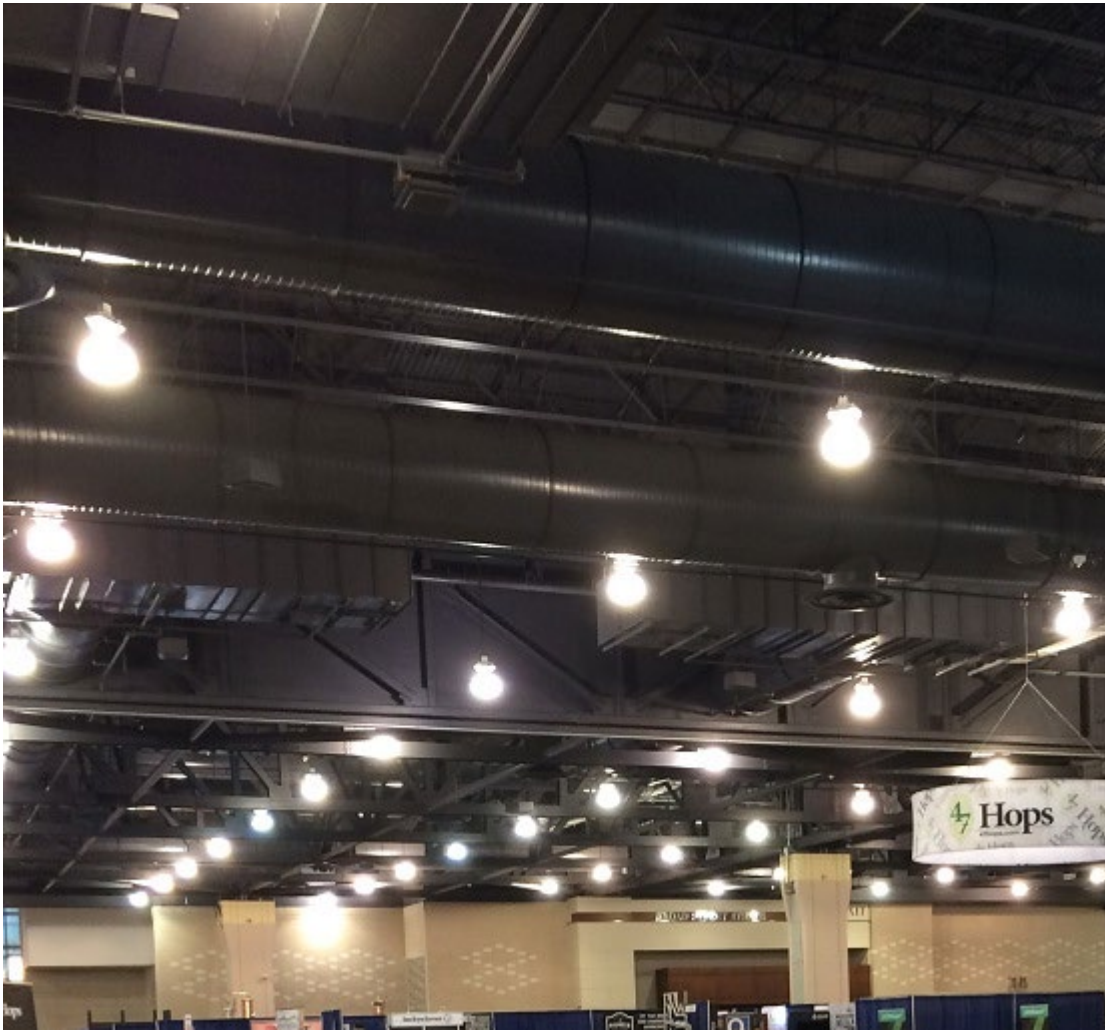
Panel Trusses - Halls A, B, C & D



Hall B



Hall C Ceiling: LED & Incandescent Lighting



Hall D

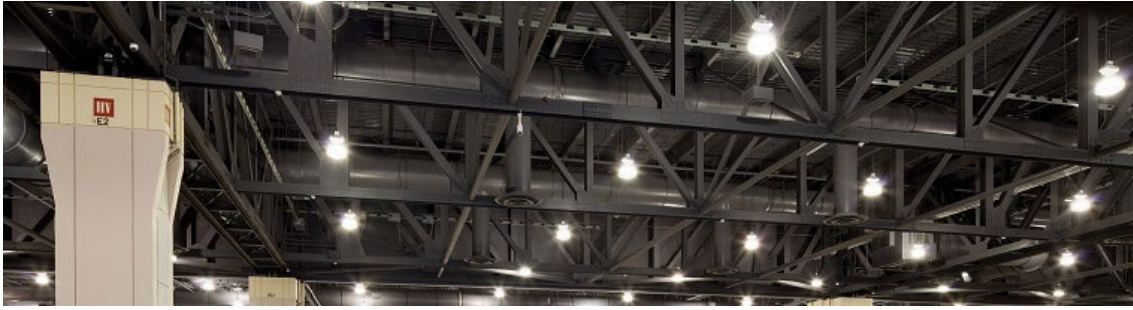
Exhibit Hall E

Please review the reflected ceiling plan for Hall E on the Pennsylvania Convention Center website.

- Most rigging is on panel truss with a 250 lb. per-point load; most points are bridled. The ceiling plan shows where these points can be hung.
- No weight load over 1000 lbs. per point load: 4-way bridle.
- Over 20 motors, someone from the Production company must be present for the pre-rig to ensure correct placement and to address any adjustment.
- Please have the motor weight and truss length/size on the drawing.
- Please provide the X/Y for all motors along with Datum.
- Please indicate the name of the event, Production company, and show dates on your Rigging plots.
- Hall E also has 6' x 6' box truss running east/west and 1' x 6' truss running north/south, with larger maximum loads per point than panel truss loads.
- The larger trusses have a much lower trim of approximately 29'.
- Hall E has fewer available rigging points on panel truss than Halls A-D and more HVAC duct and diffusers in the ceiling.
- A 60' boom lift is needed for each rigging team.



Hall E - North view from concourse entrance



Hall E - Ceiling

Exhibit Halls F & G

GROUND SUPPORT ONLY

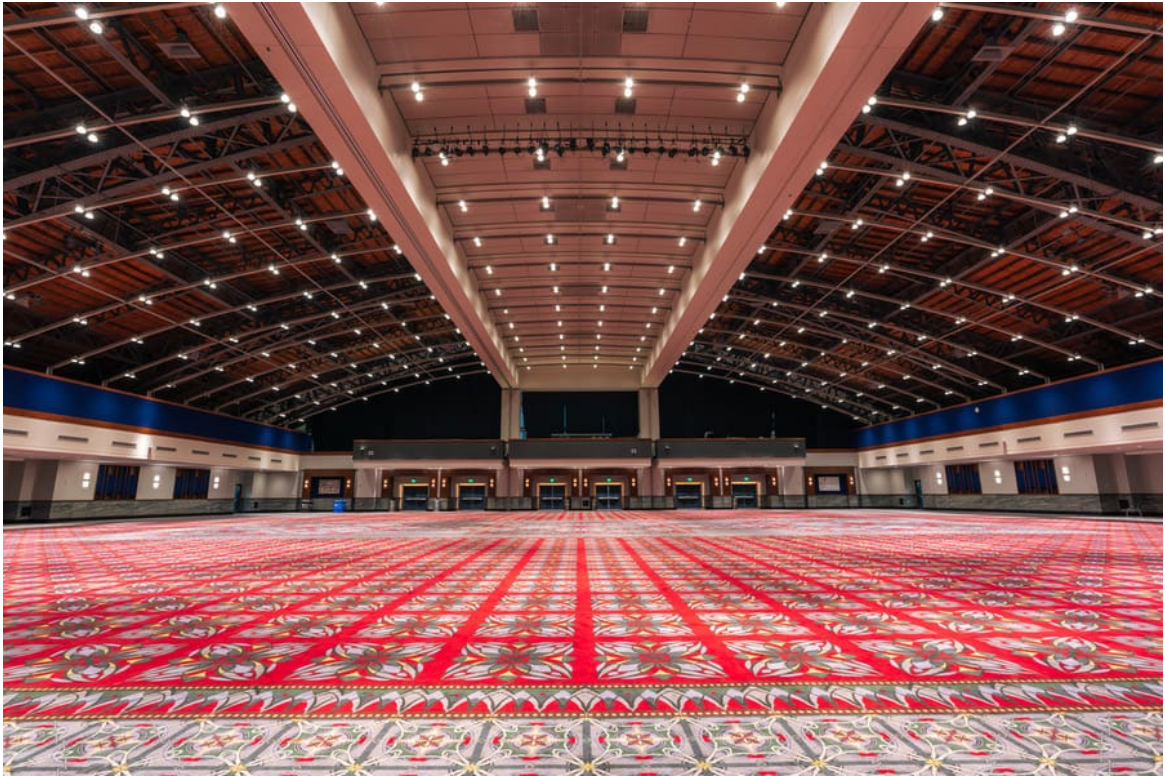
Exhibit Halls F and G do not have the ability to hang rigging; ground-support rigging is allowed.

Exhibit Hall F lowest ceiling height trim: 15'. Hall G lowest ceiling height trim: 14'.

Ballroom AB

Please review the reflected ceiling plan for Ballroom AB on the Pennsylvania Convention Center website.

- Most rigging is on panel truss with a load of 300 lb. or 600 lb. per point depending on the amount of weight on the arch pair.
- Each box truss has a load capacity of 4,000 lb. per truss.
- Total load on any arch pair is 8,000 lb. if uniformly distributed on each side of the north-south shed; otherwise, the limit is 4,000 lb. if unbalanced.
- When submitting drawings, remove the case scenarios from the ceiling plan and submit only the event rigging plot.
- Maximum ceiling height is 42'; low ceiling height is 24'.
- A 45' boom lift is needed for each rigging team, limit (2) teams permitted in Ballroom AB.
- The center soffit has four House Motor holes that can hold 1,000 lb. per motor. House motor hole spacing is approximately 30'.
- The first set of house motor holes is approximately 9' from the downstage edge of the existing house stage; front-to-back motor house holes are approximately 48'.
- Steel-to-steel distance from Ballroom A to Ballroom B is approximately 50'.
- If the soffit is spanned at points other than house points, 20.5" x 20.5" x 50' truss must be used.
- Two stage pipes can be rigged from, 7' off the back wall and 16' off the back wall.
- The permanent hanging positions for screens are over the exit doors next to the stage. The maximum screen size is 15' x 26'.



Ballroom AB - center soffit and arched ceiling



Ballroom A - ceiling and lighting grid

Terrace Ballroom

Please review the reflected ceiling plan for Terrace Ballroom on the Pennsylvania Convention Center website.

- Allowable dead-hang loads are up to 1,000 lb. per point.
- Beam clamps are located on truss throughout the room. If a point does not hit a beam clamp, 3/8-inch steel can be wrapped around the truss.
- Ceiling tiles cannot be removed to install rigging. If a point must hit below ceiling tiles, a spanner truss can be rigged steel-to-steel.
- High steel: 43'6"; low steel: 35'8"; air wall tracks: 34'6".
- A 45' boom lift is needed for each rigging team.



Terrace 1-4 - full view of ceiling

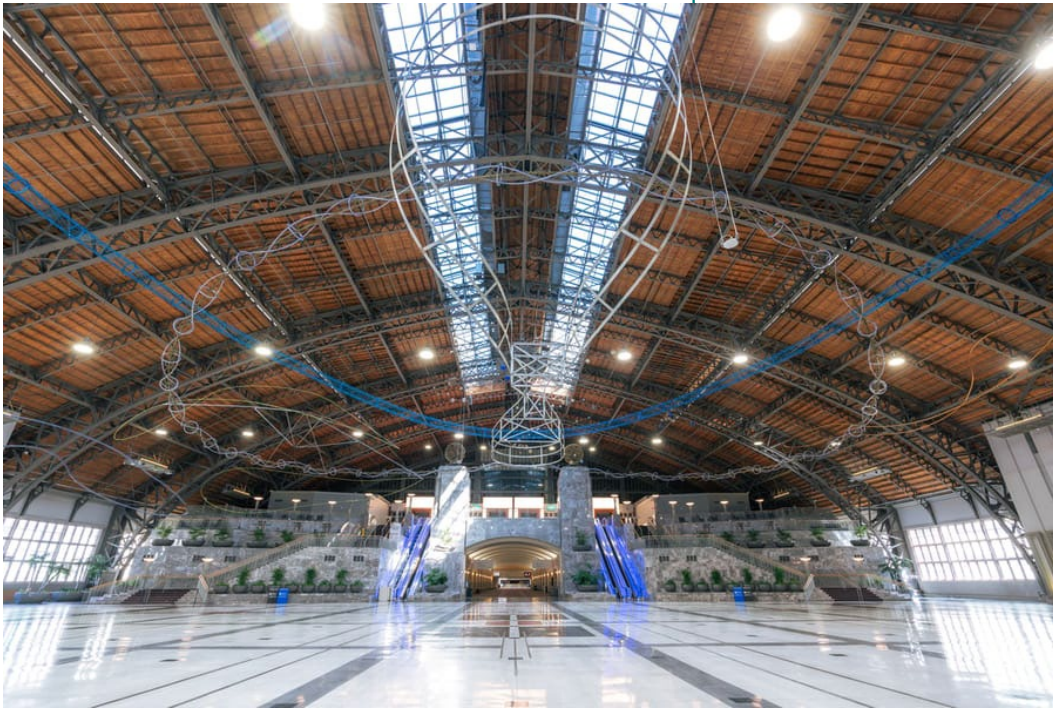
Grand Hall

Please review the reflected ceiling plan for Grand Hall on the Pennsylvania Convention Center website. Two drawings are available, one with artwork and one without artwork; it is suggested to review both.

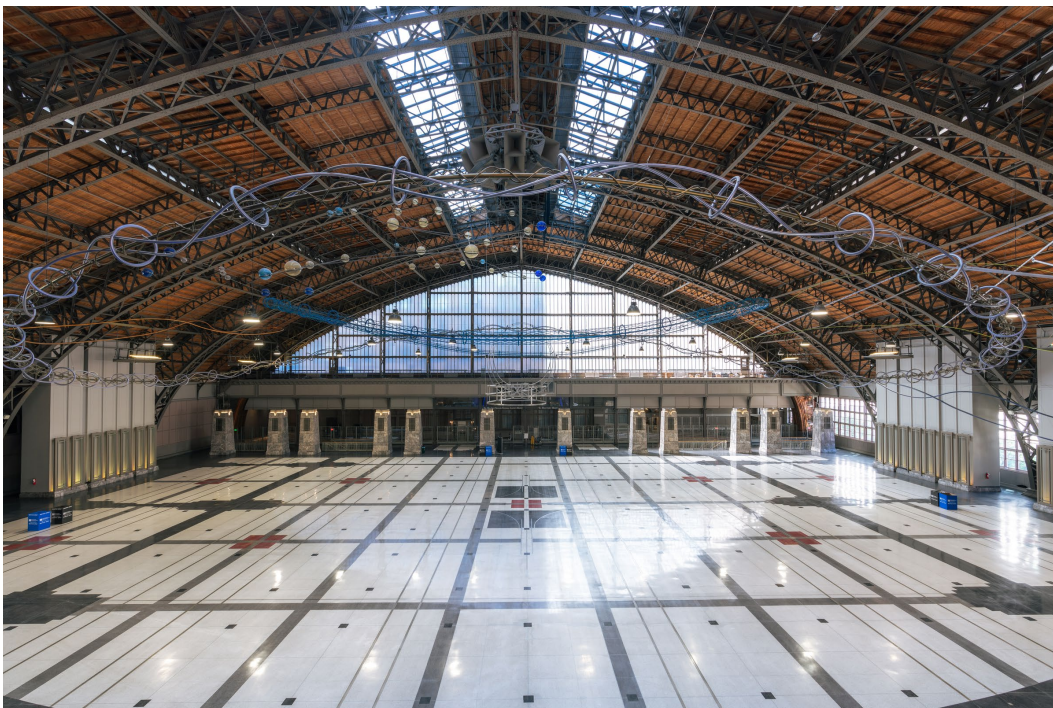
- Most rigging is on panel truss with a load of 300 lb. per point.
- Each 4' x 4' box truss has a load capacity of 4,000 lb. per truss.
- All rigging in this room is performed by climbing riggers; boom lifts cannot be driven in this area.

MARBLE FLOOR PROTECTION

Plastic or a floor protector must be applied over the marble floor before any truss can be brought into the room and again before trusses are lowered during load-out. Damage resulting from failure to follow this process will be charged back to the client.



Grand Hall - rigging structure facing north



Grand Hall - ceiling structure facing south

6. Planning & Assistance

For assistance with rigging planning, estimates, site surveys, or room-specific questions, client should contact their Event Manager, who will coordinate with the appropriate PCC Rigging Services representative.

EARLY COORDINATION RECOMMENDED

Production managers are encouraged to engage PCC Rigging Services during the planning phase, particularly for larger or complex rigging projects.